

# Council formed for site-wide chemical management

Hanford's proactive management of chemicals on a site-wide basis took another step forward in October with the signing of a formal charter for the Hanford Chemical Safety Management Council.

The council, which was formed in July 1999, is made up of representatives of the Battelle Memorial Institute (which operates the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory), Bechtel Hanford, Fluor Daniel Hanford and the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation. The Council was formed to foster open communication between site entities so that chemicals at Hanford are managed in a safe, effective and consistent manner that conforms with the principles of the Integrated Safety Management System.

The council and its charter have evolved from a commitment made in August 1997 by the Hanford Site prime contractors to manage chemicals from a site-wide perspective, rather than taking a company-by-company approach. To do so, the contractors established a Chemical Management System (CMS) Requirements Document which governs the safe acquisition, tracking, storage, use, transportation and final disposition of chemicals.

The CMS Requirements Document integrates key elements of occupational safety, environmental protection and best management practices into a reasonable standard for managing chemicals. The council members are committed to maintaining their chemical management programs in conformance with the document, and are working together on enhancements to chemical management on the Hanford Site.

The council provides a forum for the contractors to discuss and develop solutions to site-wide chemical safety issues and to share "lessons learned" as well as best management practices for chemical and hazardous material management.

Other opportunities the council provides include:



*Council Chairman Joe Zoghbi of Bechtel Hanford speaks to Hanford personnel gathered for the signing of the charter for the Hanford Chemical Safety Management Council. Also at the table for the signing are, from left, Roby Enge of Battelle Memorial Institute, Janice Williams of Fluor Daniel Hanford and Sandi McInturff of the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation.*

- Making site-wide chemical safety policy recommendations to DOE or regulators when unanimous agreement has been reached by the contractors on an issue
- Championing joint initiatives that create mutual benefits and further the enhancement of chemical management on site
- Communicating and implementing chemical safety management policies in a coordinated, con-

sistent and cost-effective manner

- Reviewing and revising the Chemical Management System Requirements Document every two years.

Membership on the council is voluntary, and the chair will rotate annually among the members. Joe Zoghbi of Bechtel Hanford is the council chairman for the remainder of this calendar year. Organizations that are interested in participating should contact Zoghbi by e-mail or telephone at 372-9526. ♦